

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the claims

As shown in the foregoing LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS, the claims have been amended to more clearly point out the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Claim 21 is amended to incorporate the features of dependent claim 27 and intervening claims 25 and 26. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added, since the changes merely merge the subject matter of previously presented claims.

Claims 25-27 are canceled and the features thereof added to amended claim 21.

Claim 30 is canceled to avoid a duplicative recitation of the crosswise extending edge now recited in amended claim 21.

Claims 22-24 and 28-30 are left unchanged.

Entry of the LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

2. Rejection of claims 21-24, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 3,240,001 (*Kuhn et al.*) in view of U.S. patent no. 4,175,938 (*Regehr et al.*)

This rejection is rendered moot by the inclusion in amended claim 21 of the indicated allowable subject matter in previous claim 27. The remaining claims depend from either claim 21, and are therefore patentable as containing all of the recited elements of claim 21, as well as for their respective recited features

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is kindly requested.

2. Rejection of claims 25, 26, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 3,240,001 (*Kuhn et al.*) in view of U.S. patent no. 4,175,938 (*Regehr et al.*) and further in view of U.S. patent no. 2,921,647 (*Pietrasz*)

This rejection is rendered moot by the cancelation of claims 25, 26, and 31.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

3. Allowable subject matter

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claim 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the features of the base claim 21 and intervening claims 25-26.

Accordingly, the features of claims 25-27 are added to amended claim 21 to clearly place the application in condition for allowance.

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Technology Center 3700

Application No.: 10/586,595  
Art Unit: 3744

4. Conclusion

As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-0200.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,  
  
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